

Appln. No. : 0/665,582  
Applicant : Creamer, *et al.*  
Filed : September 19, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3713  
Examiner : Unassigned

Confirmation No. 6447

Docket No. : BOC9-2003-0022 (391)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. Further, pursuant to the partial waiver of the submission requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(i), Applicants are not submitting copies of U.S. patent references with this paper.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date, or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and, therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that such documents constitute prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not

{WP167565;1}

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date

2/6/04

Kevin T. Cuenot

*Kevin T. Cuenot*

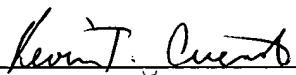
Reg. No. 46,283

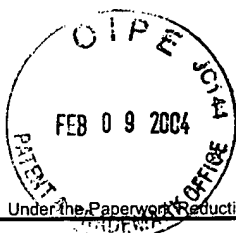
waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed documents as competent references against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/6/04

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory A. Nelson, Reg. No. 30,577  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/665,582
Filing Date	September 19, 2003
First Named Inventor	Creamer, et al.
Art Unit	3713
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	BOC9-2003-0022 (391)

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,592,609	01-07-1997	Suzuki, et al.	
		US- 5,935,006	08-10-1999	Nakajima	
		US- 6,024,643	02-15-2000	Begis	
		US- 2002/0002074	01-03-2002	White, et al.	
		US- 6,419,577	07-16-2002	Okada, et al.	
		US- 10/666,309	09-19-2003	Creamer, et al.	
		US- 10/665,585	09-19-2003	Creamer, et al.	
		US- 10/666,307	09-19-2003	Creamer, et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

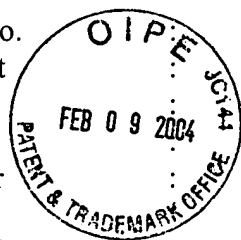
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please find enclosed the following for filing:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO/SB/08A with references;
- ☒ Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0951; and
- ☒ Other: (1) Postcard.

This Transmittal Letter is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/6/04

Kevin T. Cuenot  
Gregory A. Nelson, Reg. No. 30,577  
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{WP167565;1}

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